



## **Brownfields 2017 Job Training Grant Fact Sheet**

### ***People United for Sustainable Housing Inc., Buffalo, NY***

#### **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country cleanup and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant funds are provided to nonprofit organizations and other eligible entities to recruit, train, and place residents from solid and hazardous waste-impacted communities, including low-income and minority, unemployed, and underemployed individuals. To date, EPA has funded 274 job training grants totaling over \$57 million through the Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program. As of May 2017, more than 16,300 individuals have completed training, and of those, almost 12,000 have obtained employment in the environmental field, an average starting wage of over \$14 an hour. This equates to a cumulative placement rate of approximately 73% since the program was created in 1998.

#### **Job Training Grant**

*\$200,000.00*

EPA has selected People United for Sustainable Housing, Inc. (PUSH) for an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant. PUSH plans to train 42 students and place at least 35 graduates in environmental jobs. The core training program includes 116 hours of instruction in 40-hour HAZWOPER, roots of success, OSHA 10-hour construction, and OSHA 16-hour confined space. Additional courses include 275 hours of instruction in courses under four special tracks: environmental worker, clean energy, energy efficiency, and green infrastructure. PUSH will provide assistance to students to guide them in selecting the appropriate track. Participants who complete the training program can earn a total of nine state and federal certifications. PUSH is targeting unemployed and underemployed residents from the east and west side neighborhoods of Buffalo. Key partners include the Savarino Companies LLC, Montante Solar, Solar Liberty, New Buffalo Impact, and Green Top.

#### **Contacts**

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 2 Brownfields Team  
(212) 637-3260  
EPA Region 2 Brownfields Web site  
(<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-new-jersey-new-york-puerto-rico-and-us-virgin>)

Grant Recipient: People United for Sustainable Housing, Inc., NY  
(716) 884-0356

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.